

WHITESTOCKS PRESIDENT'S SPILLER

Congressmen Privately Seeking Line Where Rights of Senator Over President's Privacy Begin and End.

BY DAVID LAWRENCE.
(Special Correspondent of the News Scimitar.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Senator Ashurst, of Arizona, who paced the White House grounds, impatiently and indignantly, to act promptly on the mining bill, because it affects so vitally his constituents back home, but whether or not he adopted the proper course to compel the president to act, or whether he was advised by his colleagues and officials generally.

The position taken by many is that a United States senator has no more right to force the president to act, or whether the president has the right to sign or veto a bill than a senator has the right to insist upon word from the supreme court of the United States as to what its decision will be in any pending case.

Moreover, those who defend Mr. Wilson declare that the senate has been very jealous of its prerogative in the past and any attempt on the part of the president to ask the senate formally what action it would take on a pending bill would be resented.

What President Can Do.

The most a president can do is to "recommend" to congress and the most a senator or member of congress can do about a bill at the White House is to "recommend" it.

Mr. Ashurst insists that he wasn't trying to influence the president, but simply to find out whether Mr. Wilson would sign or veto, and when he would make a decision strictly speaking, officials say Mr. Ashurst had a right to cool his heels at the White House offices and wait there all day long, but he was not to be admitted to the president's study.

The Arizona senator, went to the front door of the White House after he had found no one at the executive offices from whom he could get information. The president's secretary was away for lunch and the attaches in charge could not enlighten Mr. Ashurst as to the status of the bill. When Mr. Ashurst came back he began tracing the mining bill would affect the interior department. Secretary John Barton Payne seemed to be out of the city.

And Mr. Wilson is given 10 days by the constitution to make up his mind what to do about bills passed by congress. He has until Jan. 4 to sign or veto the mining bill. Mr. Wilson is not the kind who is stampeded into action on anything. (Copyright, 1920, by David Lawrence.)

Release Woman To Kinsfolk And Postpone Probe

An inquiry into the sanity of Miss Willie Stroud, scheduled to be heard by a jury before Judge J. A. H. Carroll, chairman of the county court, ended abruptly when attorneys representing Miss Stroud contended that they had had insufficient time in which to prepare a defense and requested a continuance.

The petition, alleging that Miss Stroud is insane, was filed Thursday afternoon by the county clerk. The hearing was held in the county court room, and the judge, after hearing the testimony of the county clerk and the attorneys, adjourned the case until the next day.

On the showing made by L. H. Graves, P. W. Lanier and Dudley Carroll, attorneys for Miss Stroud, Judge Carroll continued the hearing until Jan. 1, 1921.

Miss Stroud is the wife of a man who was killed in the war. She is now living with her parents in the city of St. Louis.

Snowfall In 1920 Lightest In Years

That the eight-tenths inch of snow that fell in Memphis during the year 1920 was one of the lightest since 1885, when only three-tenths of an inch fell, was shown in official records compiled at the local United States weather bureau and released Friday by Forecaster Scott.

A fall of three-tenths of an inch was registered on February 14, 1920, while another of only five-tenths of an inch was registered Feb. 28. Both snowfalls were followed immediately by rain, which prevented the snow staying on the ground.

The total precipitation of rainfall for the year was 58.7 inches, having been 194 days out of the year. The heaviest rain was 4.4 inches, which was reached on Oct. 23 and 24. The river exceeded flood stage from March 27 to May 13, inclusive.

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FROM WALL STREET

Final Session of Year in Stocks Develops Considerable Strength.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The final session of the year on the stock exchange was a day of strong tone, many of the leading shares making substantial advances. Foremost features included Northern Pacific, St. Paul preferred, Anaconda, Baldwin Locomotive, American Tobacco and Edgemoor Johnson, in which gains ranged from 1 to 14 points. Atlantic Gulf was once more the most conspicuous exception, opening at a fractional loss, which was increased to four points, or a new low record at 7 1/2. Among the early dealers' income tax payments for the year.

The market moved confidently forward during the noon hour to the discomfiture of the shorts. Shipbuilding, steel, equipment and copper continued to lead, rails also making further improvement. Outstanding features embraced American International, Mexican Petroleum, Crucible, Baldwin and St. Paul preferred.

LAST SALES.

Great Northern Company	26 1/2
Great Northern pfd.	27 1/2
Great Northern Ore	27 1/2
Great Northern Cfs.	28 1/2
Great Northern Central	28 1/2
Great Northern Copper	28 1/2
Great Northern pfd.	28 1/2
Great Northern Paper	28 1/2
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